

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Distributor for a rotary filter comprising filtration cells (1) rotating in a circular movement, comprising

[[-]] (a) a fixed collector part (8) comprising at least two compartments (12–14), which each have an upward opening (17) in the form of an arc of a circle and at least one liquid discharge pipe (11), and a central separator chamber (9, 9’), which comprises a downward opening putting the separator chamber in communication with each of the said compartments and a gas outlet pipe (25, 31), the said downward opening being disposed at a level lower than the said upward opening (17) of each of the compartments,

[[-]] (b) a movable distributor part (5) which slides over the collector part (8) during the said circular movement and which comprises, per filtration cell (1), an alveolus (6) having an inlet (18) for receiving a filtered liquid/gas mixture coming from the filtration cell and an outlet (19) which passes opposite the said arc-shaped opening (17) in each of the said compartments (12–14) during the said circular movement, thus allowing passage of the said mixture in the said collector part (8), and

[[-]] (c) means (10) for putting the separator chamber (9, 9’) under negative pressure, so as to cause a separation of gas from the liquid/gas mixture flowing in the said compartments (12–14) of the collector part, with an upward movement of the gas in the separator chamber from its downward opening,

characterised in that, in vertical projection, the downward opening of the central separator chamber (9, 9’) and the said upward opening (17) of each compartment (12–14) of the collector part (8) overlap partially.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): Distributor according to Claim 1, characterised in that the central separator chamber (9, 9’) has an external peripheral wall (23, 23’) which, at least at a

level situated below each outlet opening (17), extends so as to be inclined downwards and towards the outside and thus forms, in the said compartments (12-14), a deflector (24) which diverts the liquid/gas mixture towards the outside of these in a first direction (F1) and allows a separation of the gas from this mixture in a second direction (F2) oriented at 180° with respect to the first direction (F1).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): Distributor according to ~~one of Claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, characterised in that each ~~above-mentioned~~ upward opening (17) in the form of an arc of a circle has an external peripheral edge (29) and an internal peripheral edge (28) and in that the said deflector (24) is a plate in the form of a skirt fixed to the internal peripheral edge (29) of each of the said upward openings (17).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): Device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that the gas discharge conduit (25) is arranged at the top of the central separator chamber (9).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): Device according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that the central separator chamber (9') is closed towards the top and in that the gas discharge pipe (31) is arranged centrally with an inlet at the top of the separator chamber and an outlet towards the bottom.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): Rotary filter comprising a distributor according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1.